

**From:** Josh Watters  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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I seriously doubt any strong consideration is being given to letters sent to this address. If the DoJ or anyone else with government influence were truly concerned with the thoughts of the American public, or most critically the educated American public, this issue would have been laid to rest some time ago with far heavier consequences levied against Microsoft. None the less I'll continue with the lingering hope that continued comments might serve the public interest despite the government concerns with corporate profit over our welfare.

There are three operating systems in the world, Mac OS, Linux, and windows. Unless you're running Mac hardware, a minority of the population, the Mac OS is meaningless. Which leaves us with Windows and Linux. Today, Linux is just beginning to reach a stage where it can be installed onto a system in under 5 hours due to its complexity. Lets add to this that drivers for most hardware is still difficult to find and that the Media giants have stepped in with law suits preventing Linux operators from viewing DVD's the rightfully own. Funny how this little seemingly unrelated topics further assist Microsoft.

Microsoft has absolutely no incentive to improve their software. They force new upgrades on the public, leverage application upgrades in the business sector, which then eventually forces the public to upgrade applications as well. They stomped out Netscape, generally considered to be the superior browser. Today there is no Netscape. Sure it exist, but no one uses it, there is no strong incentive to improve or market it, and now for all practical purposes we're stuck with a browser that has as many problems and failures as the OS.

MS has also managed to take huge market share from AOL. Now that in itself isn't bad. AOL should be forced to defend its turf just like any other American corporation. But MS isn't likely to stop. The OS market gives then the chance to do to AOL what they did to Netscape. AOL might be a bigger target and a harder bare to kill, Netscape never really had that much cash to burn, but MS has more cash in the reserves than the US government. Without enforcement of antitrust laws, AOL will fall to.

Eventually we get to the Xbox. Now MS has done nothing wrong here. But anyone with the slightest awareness of history has to expect MS to start leveraging power in the home video gaming arena. How will they do, I wouldn't care to guess, there's plenty of methods. The key here is that antitrust laws have no teeth. There has been no punitive action taken against Microsoft. And the government has clearly said its better to break the law and ask for forgiveness later. There is nothing but incentive for MS to continue its current behaviour. MS is a corporation and will behave in the manner which garnishes the most returns. The government must clearly make it unprofitable to break the law, else why have the laws at all.

In closing, this entire process has been made into a joke. All

technically educated people not profiting from Microsoft are frustrated over the government's incompetence. Even the media, the spearhead epitome of the uneducated masses has started to catch on. So far the only thing this settlement has done is prove the greatest American tragedy of all, "MONEY BUYS EVERYTHING!"